

Application No. 10/687,190
Amendment dated October 10, 2005
Reply to Office action of July 8 July 8, 2005

Docket No. 58085-010204

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Hartman for extending the courtesy of an interview to Applicants' representative, Pablo Tapia, on September 27, 2005, and for further guidance provided in subsequent telephone conversations. In response to the Office Action dated July 8, 2005, Applicants' have canceled Claims 1-9 and added Claims 10-33.

Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 10-33 have been newly added and present no new matter.

Formal reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated July 8, 2005 is respectfully requested. Applicants' submit that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over articles which appeared as News Release items for King County, circa 2001, in view of Official Notice. While Claims 1-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 10-33 have been newly added and claim similar matter.

As such, Applicants first address the rejection based on Claims 1-9 of the Office Action of July 8, 2005. Applicants traverse the rejection of the Claim 1-9 because there is no motivation to combine the references as Examiner suggests. On Page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner points out that "the use of cellular telephones for booking reservations with airlines was well known at the time the invention was made. Specifically, a booking procedure in which the telephone is used in conjunctions with telephone menu options." Applicants believe that Examiner refers to the previous cited reference to Dombroski et al, U.S. Patent Application No. U.S. 2002/0023463 A1. The Examiner further states that "it would have been obvious to have incorporated the well-known telephone reservation system into the events, as disclosed by the

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articles, for the purpose of allowing a simple way for persons locating within King County to reserve a flight to somewhere else.”

This combination suggested by the Examiner, however, would yield a method of an airline reservation system that utilizes preset schedules to book a time for a person to leave. At a time of emergency, this combination would not be practical because preset schedules would hinder the effective and speedy evacuation of persons from the disaster area. Furthermore, such combination would not yield a method as claimed in the present application in which individuals are not concerned of traveling to a certain destination, but rather simply are concerned in evacuating a disaster area. The present application includes requesting an evacuation time regardless of any preconfigured schedule.

In order to advance prosecution, however, Applicants have added new Claims 10-33 to clarify various aspects of the application. In particular, independent Claims 10 and 19 refer to a method of managing the evacuation of multiple persons, the method including transmitting an evacuation time for a person to drive away from the disaster area utilizing ground transportation. Furthermore, independent claim 24, 27, 32, and 33 clarify that the evacuation time is utilized to evacuate the disaster area by foot. In addition, independent Claim 31 and 32 have been added to include an exit route and an evacuation time for leaving the disaster area.

Applicants submit that for at least the above reasons, the newly added independent Claims are in condition for allowance. Dependant Claims 11-18, 20-23, 25-26, and 28-31 depend on independent Claims 10, 19, 24 and 27 respectively. Therefore, Applicants submit that dependant Claims 11-18, 20-23, 25-26, and 28-31 are also in condition for allowance.

Support for New Claims

Claims 10-33 are new claims that simply further define the invention. Additionally, all of the elements of Claims 10-33 are well supported in the original as-filed application and do not present new matter.

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In particular, 10 and 19 are supported in paragraphs [221] to [225] of the as-filed application. Claims 24, 27, 32, and 33 are well supported in paragraph [225]. Finally, Claim 30 and 31 is also well supported in paragraph [225].

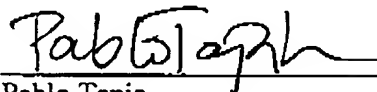
Conclusion

Applicants have complied with all requirements made in the above referenced communication. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should matters remain, which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicants' undersigned agent.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s), or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account Number 50-2638. Please ensure that Attorney Docket Number 58085-010204 is referred to when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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